

libraries was isolated from human fetal kidney tissue (LIB227).

DNA sequencing of the clones isolated as described above gave the full-length DNA sequence for PRO1083 [herein designated as UNQ540 (DNA50921-1458)] (SEQ ID NO:482) and the derived protein sequence for PRO1083.

The entire nucleotide sequence of UNQ540 (DNA50921-1458) is shown in Figure 203 (SEQ ID NO:482). Clone UNQ540 (DNA50921-1458) contains a single open reading frame with an apparent translational initiation site at nucleotide positions 214-216 and ending at the stop codon at nucleotide positions 2293-2295 (Figure 203). The predicted polypeptide precursor is 693 amino acids long (Figure 204). The full-length PRO1083 protein shown in Figure 204 has an estimated molecular weight of about 77,738 daltons and a pI of about 8.87. Clone UNQ540 (DNA50921-1458) has been deposited with the ATCC. Regarding the sequence, it is understood that the deposited clone contains the correct sequence, and the sequences provided herein are based on known sequencing techniques.

Still analyzing the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:483, the putative signal peptide is at about amino acids 1-25 of SEQ ID NO:483. The transmembrane domains are at about amino acids 382-398, 402-420, 445-468, 473-491, 519-537, 568-590 and 634-657 of SEQ ID NO:483. A microbodies C-terminal targeting signal is at about amino acids 691-693 of SEQ ID NO:483. cAMP- and cGMP-dependent protein kinase phosphorylation sites are at about amino acids 198-201 and 370-373 of SEQ ID NO:483. N-glycosylation sites are at about amino acids 39-42, 148-151, 171-174, 234-237, 303-306, 324-227 and 341-344 of SEQ ID NO:483. A G-protein coupled receptor family domain is at about amino acids 475-504 of SEQ ID NO:483. The corresponding nucleotides can be routinely determined given the sequences provided herein.

EXAMPLE 84: Isolation of cDNA Clones Encoding Human PRO200

Probes based on an expressed sequence tag (EST) identified from the Incyte Pharmaceuticals database due to homology with VEGF were used to screen a cDNA library derived from the human glioma cell line G61.

In particular, Incyte Clone "INC1302516" was used to generate the following four probes:

(SEQ ID NO:489) ACTTCTCAGTGTCCATAAGGG;

(SEQ ID NO:490) GAACTAAAGAGAACCGATACCATTCTTCTGCCAGGTGTGTC;

(SEQ ID NO:491) CACCACAGCGTTAAACCAGG; and

(SEQ ID NO:492) ACAACAGGCACAGTCCCCAC.

Nine positives were identified and characterized. Three clones contained the full coding region and were identical in sequence. Partial clones were also identified from a fetal lung library and were identical with the glioma-derived sequence with the exception of one nucleotide change which did not alter the encoded amino acid.

EXAMPLE 85: Expression Constructs for PRO200

For mammalian protein expression, the entire open reading frame (ORF) was cloned into a CMV-based expression vector. An epitope-tag (FLAG, Kodak) and Histidine-tag (His8) were inserted between the ORF and stop codon. VEGF-E-His8 and VEGF-E-FLAG were transfected into human embryonic kidney 293 cells by

SuperFect (Qiagen) and pulse-labeled for 3 hours with [³⁵S]methionine and [³⁵C]cysteine. Both epitope-tagged proteins co-migrate when 20 microliters of 15-fold concentrated serum-free conditioned medium were electrophoresed on a polyacrylamide gel (Novex) in sodium dodecyl sulfate sample buffer (SDS-PAGE). The VEGF-E-IgG expression plasmid was constructed by cloning the ORF in front of the human Fc (IgG) sequence.

The VEGF-E-IgG plasmid was co-transfected with Baculogold Baculovirus DNA (Pharmlingen) using Lipofectin (GibcoBRL) into 10⁵ Sf9 cells grown in Hink's TNM-FH medium (JRH Biosciences) supplemented with 10% fetal bovine serum. Cells were incubated for 5 days at 28°C. The supernatant was harvested and subsequently used for the first viral amplification by infecting Sf9 cells at an approximate multiplicity of infection (MOI) of 10. Cells were incubated for 3 days, then supernatant harvested, and expression of the recombinant plasmid determined by binding of 1 ml of supernatant to 30 µl of Protein-A Sepharose CL-4B beads (Pharmacia) followed by subsequent SDS-PAGE analysis. The first amplification supernatant was used to infect a 500 ml spinner culture of Sf9 cells grown in ESF-921 medium (Expression Systems LLC) at an approximate MOI of 0.1. Cells were treated as above, except harvested supernatant was sterile filtered. Specific protein was purified by binding to Protein-A Sepharose 4 Fast Flow (Pharmacia) column.

EXAMPLE 86: Northern Blot Analyses for PRO200

Blots of human poly(A)⁺ RNA from multiple adult and fetal tissues and tumor cell lines were obtained from Clontech (Palo Alto, CA). Hybridization was carried out using ³²P-labeled probes containing the entire coding region and washed in 0.1 x SSC, 0.1% SDS at 63°C.

VEGF-E mRNA was detectable in fetal lung, kidney, brain, liver and adult heart, placenta, liver, skeletal muscle, kidney, and pancreas. VEGF-E mRNA was also found in A549 lung adenocarcinoma and HeLa cervical adenocarcinoma cell lines.

EXAMPLE 87: In Situ Hybridization of Human Fetal Tissue Sections for PRO200

Formalin-fixed, paraffin-embedded human fetal brain, liver, lower limb, small intestine, thyroid, lymph node, thymus, stomach, trachea, skin, spleen, spinal cord, adrenal, placenta, cord, and adult liver, pancreas, lung, spleen, lymph node, adrenal, heart, aorta, and skin were sectioned, deparaffinized, deproteinized in proteinase K (20 µg/ml) for 15 minutes at 37°C, and further processed for in situ hybridization as described by Lu LH and Gillett NA (Cell Vision 1:169-176, 1994). A [α -³³P]UTP-labeled antisense riboprobe was generated from a PCR product of 980 bp (primers GGCGGAATCCAACCTGAGTAG and GCGGCTATCTCTCTGTGCTC, SEQ ID NOS: 493 and 494, respectively). The slides were dipped in Kodak NTB2 nuclear track emulsion and exposed for 4 weeks.

VEGF-E mRNA expression included localization at the growth plate region and embracing fetal myocytes.

EXAMPLE 88: Myocyte Hypertrophy Assay for PRO200

Myocytes from neonatal Harlan Sprague Dawley rat heart ventricle (23 days gestation) were plated in duplicate at 75000 cells/ml in a 96-well plate. Cells were treated for 48h with 2000, 200, 20, or 2 ng/ml VEGF-E-IgG. Myocytes were stained with crystal violet to visualize morphology and scored on a scale of 3 to

7, 3 being nonstimulated and 7 being full-blown hypertrophy.

2000 ng/ml and 200 ng/ml VEGF-E caused hypertrophy, scored as a 5.

EXAMPLE 89: Cell Proliferation Assay for PRO200

Mouse embryonic fibroblast C3H10T1/2 cells (ATCC) were grown in 50:50 Ham's F-12: low glucose DMEM medium containing 10% fetal calf serum (FCS). Cells were plated in duplicate in a 24-well plate at 1000, 2000, and 4000 cells/well. After 48 hours, cells were switched to medium containing 2% FCS and were incubated for 72 hours with 200, 800, or 2000 ng/ml VEGF-E or no growth factor added.

Approximately 1.5 fold greater number of cells were measured in the presence of 200 ng/ml VEGF-E as in its absence, at all three cell densities.

EXAMPLE 90: Endothelial Cell Survival Assay for PRO200

Human umbilical vein endothelial cells (HUVEC, Cell Systems) were maintained in Complete Media (Cell Systems) and plated in triplicate in serum-free medium (Basic Media from Cell Systems containing 0.1% BSA) at 20,000 cells/well of a 48-well plate. Cells were incubated for 5 days with 200 or 400 ng/ml VEGF-E-IgG, 100 ng/ml VEGF, 20 ng/ml basic FGF, or no addition.

Survival was 2-3 times greater with VEGF-E as compared to lack of growth factor addition. VEGF and basic FGF were included as positive controls.

EXAMPLE 91: Isolation of cDNA Clones Encoding Human PRO285

A proprietary expressed sequence tag (EST) DNA database (LIFESEQ™, Incyte Pharmaceuticals, Palo Alto, CA) was searched and an EST (#2243209) was identified which showed homology to the *Drosophila* Toll protein.

Based on the EST, a pair of PCR primers (forward and reverse):

TAAAGACCCAGCTGTGACCG (SEQ ID NO:499)

ATCCATGAGCCTCTGATGGG (SEQ ID NO: 500), and

a probe:

ATTATGTCTCAGAGAAAGGGACTGGTACCAGGGCAGCCAGTTC (SEQ ID NO: 501)

were synthesized.

mRNA for construction of the cDNA libraries was isolated from human placenta tissue. The cDNA libraries used to isolate the cDNA clones were constructed by standard methods using commercially available reagents such as those from Invitrogen, San Diego, CA (Fast Track 2). The cDNA was primed with oligo dT containing a NotI site, linked with blunt to SalI hemikinased adaptors, cleaved with NotI, sized appropriately by gel electrophoresis, and cloned in a defined orientation into the cloning vector pCR2.1 (Invitrogen, Inc.) using reagents and protocols from Life Technologies, Gaithersburg, MD (Super Script Plasmid System). The double stranded cDNA was sized to greater than 1000 bp and the cDNA was cloned into BamHI/NotI cleaved vector. pCR2.1 is a commercially available plasmid, designed for easy cloning of PCR fragments, that carries AmpR and KanR genes for selection, and LacZ gene for blue-white selection.